

# Wayne Allard

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## **SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE DESIGNATES \$5 MILLION FOR SAGE GROUSE CONSERVATION**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-Colorado) announced Thursday that the Senate Appropriations Committee, of which he is a member, has designated \$5 million to be spent on sage grouse habitat conservation.

“Western states like Colorado would face major difficulties if the sage grouse were listed as an endangered species,” Senator Allard said. “Communities in Colorado have worked hard to come up with locally-driven solutions that will protect the grouse population without the need for an endangered species listing, and this funding will bolster these local efforts.”

The FY 2006 Agriculture Appropriations bill includes language supported by Senator Allard that directs the Secretary of Interior to spend \$5 million on the conservation of sage grouse habitat throughout the West.

“Listing of the greater sage grouse would trigger a number of cumbersome regulations and expensive land-use restrictions throughout the State of Colorado,” added Senator Allard. “This funding will be an important investment in not only the survival of the sage grouse, but also the livelihoods of people throughout the West.”

The Endangered Species Act, passed in 1973, has produced mixed results: more than 1,100 species have been listed, but few species have been delisted. In the view of many in the scientific community, none of those species were recovered as the result of federal government regulations.

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